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28 October 1964

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[Redacted] Copy No. C 127

State Department review completed



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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DAILY BRIEF

South Vietnam: Consultations on the composition of the new government are continuing beyond the originally scheduled deadline.

The new chief of state, Phan Khac Suu, apparently has not yet chosen a candidate for premier. He is reportedly engaged in negotiations with top Buddhist and Catholic leaders to devise an acceptable cabinet. The secretary general of the High National Council, who appears to have considerable influence with Suu, is recommending to Suu that he consult with Khanh and Minh before submitting his choices to the council. This process should take about a week.

The Khanh government meanwhile continues to act in a caretaker capacity, although on 26 October authority was officially turned over to Suu by Khanh and Minh, acting for the military triumvirate.

At a recent meeting of 40 senior military officers presided over by Khanh, the latter obtained 32 votes, *a vote of confidence*, in favor of his retaining the position of armed forces commander in chief in the new government. Khanh presumably will cite this vote in promoting his candidacy for this post.

General Minh is to be given a relatively meaningless post, probably "supreme counselor" to the chief of state.

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Cyprus: [Greek and UN officials appear to agree that, unless some moves toward enosis are made soon, President Makarios will ultimately obtain the unfettered independence he is seeking.

[The Greeks say that General Grivas, the leader of the pro-enosis elements, is increasingly restive. Grivas is said to feel he is losing ground because of the current inaction on the island and because Makarios is actively attempting to enhance his influence among the Cypriot and Greek military forces there. Greek officials have raised the possibility that Grivas might abandon his efforts and return to Athens.]

[Greek officials have also commented on the "awkward" position in which Greek forces in Cyprus will find themselves in a month or two if the over-all security situation no longer seems to require their presence. Pro-enosis elements have relied on the Greek troops, estimated at 10,000, to overcome any armed resistance to enosis from the Communists or others favoring complete independence.]

UN mediator Galo Plaza [meanwhile] has intimated that while he favors enosis with some concessions to Turkey, his recommendations to the secretary general will perforce be made within the context of an independent Cyprus. Galo Plaza's report is expected sometime in December, and Makarios presumably is counting on this to strengthen his hand. Plaza believes that Makarios might still be pressed into supporting enosis if he could appear as its sponsor, even though he prefers independence.

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Both Greek and UN officials point out that the principal obstacle to movement on the enosis issue at this time is Turkey, which remains adamantly opposed to uniting Cyprus with Greece unless it receives larger concessions than those offered it so far by the Greeks.

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Egypt-USSR: [Nasir was badly shaken by Khrushchev's ouster and is still concerned about the future of his relations with the USSR,]

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[Khrushchev had become a symbol of Soviet largesse to the Egyptians. Nasir apparently fears a general cutback in Soviet aid which would severely dislocate Egypt's shaky economy as well as its military logistics.]

[The first major test of the Soviet attitude is likely to come when Marshal Amir, vice president and head of the Egyptian armed forces, attends the October Revolution celebrations in Moscow next week at the express invitation of the new Soviet leaders. Amir probably intends to discuss general relations and possibly to negotiate for additional arms. It is unlikely that the new Soviet regime wishes significantly to alter Soviet relations with Nasir.]

[On the Egyptian side, a dispute over relations with the USSR and the US was going on inside the Nasir regime even before Khrushchev's fall. This dispute may now be intensified.]

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*Sudan: Prime Minister Abboud's conciliatory moves have so far failed to satisfy widespread demands for civilian government.

An opposition "National Front," reportedly including leaders from most influential political and professional groups, yesterday demanded that Abboud "clarify" his position. Abboud responded by promising to consult immediately with civilian leaders and to form a transitional "national cabinet."

A split in the army leadership reportedly has seriously impaired the regime's ability to handle the situation.

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depends upon solidarity both in the ranks & leadership of the Army.

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NOTES

Belgium-Congo: [Belgian Foreign Minister Spaak plans to make a demarche to Premier Tshombé concerning the Congolese Government's conduct of its military and political affairs. Belgium will insist that Tshombé get rid of his South African mercenaries, lessen army brutality toward civilians, and broaden his government. Belgium will further urge Tshombé to consult before taking any action which might endanger the approximately 800 Europeans in rebel-held Stanleyville.]

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

The United States Intelligence Board on 21 October 1964 approved the following national intelligence estimate:

NIE 4-2-64, "Prospects for a Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons Over the Next Decade" [redacted]

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